

INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

November 19, 1996

Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

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re: MM Docket No. 88-11996

Dear Commissioner,

I respectfully request that channel 17 be removed from the list of channels to be allotted for HDTV in the Las Vegas area.

It is my understanding that when the preliminary allotment list was created, channel 17, K17CT, Las Vegas was not on the air. However, upon granting of the license on September 14, 1993 the station has been on the air with the exception of the past few months under a Remain Silent Authorization while the station has been reassigned to our company. We are currently waiting for authorization to increase the power so we can reach more of the public. I anticipate the station returning to broadcasting 24 hours a day with a full schedule of family oriented programming starting in February, 1997. It is our goal to provide as much locally produced programming as possible including coverage of local government meetings. It is clear that we are trying to live up to the "spirit" in which LPTV was created and will serve the public interest better than almost any other station in Las Vegas including the so called "full service broadcast stations", and are not using the station to simply rebroadcast a shop-at-home service.

I thank you for your consideration of this matter.

I am also enclosing my thoughts on guidelines to be used during the transition to DTV which I feel would have the least impact to existing stations.

Transition to DTV should not be channel specific, for example, stations should not be assigned a channel for DTV until they are ready to construct. Many stations will probably choose to wait until forced to make the transition. In these cases the transition could be made "overnight" on the existing channel assignment. However if it becomes necessary to relocate or displace translator or LPTV stations the following criteria should be used:

The stations should be divided into specific groups and these groups should be gone through in order initially as a relocation plan, and then surrender of a license only if necessary. An exception would be the first and second groups which could be eliminated immediately.

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The first group are low power stations being used as studio to transmitter links. Microwave links can replace these stations.

The second group are those translators used for "fill in". Many of these translators were installed before the advent of cable and are no longer necessary. Also many of these areas can be covered by using antennas with down tilt.

The third group are the translators. With the success of Direct Broadcast Satellite the need for translators to reach rural areas is becoming unnecessary. The major broadcasting networks are available through the DBS program suppliers for people not able to receive them locally.

The fourth and last group are the Low Power TV stations. As these stations are used for original programming and not as relay stations, they should be the last to be affected. However if it becomes necessary to relocate these stations it should be done in order of Effective Radiated output Power. Those stations with the lowest ERP should be the first to change as the cost is lower for the lower power equipment.

The money to relocate the translator/LPTV station could be obtained through a small business loan that could be paid back with tax credits. By being able to obtain new equipment under a tax credit, many stations would volunteer to move at least once.

If it becomes necessary to terminate a LPTV station's license for the transition to DTV, the cable television companies in the LPTV's signal area should be required to be the carrier of the displaced station. In return for being the carrier, the cable system would be allowed to count the channel as either a public access channel or as a leased access channel, therefore having virtually no financial burden for the cable company, and in most cases saving the cable company the costs of operating these channels at a loss. However, it would be the program originators responsibility to provide the means of delivery to cable company's hub.

Sincerely,



Carol A. Mulanax
President, K17CT